

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 13, 2004

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on December 13, 2004 in Room 830, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Davalos noted the lack of a quorum and called a meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order at 10:10 a.m. The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Davalos
Vice President Lesser
Commissioner Creary
Commissioner Jernigan
Commissioner Lewis
Commissioner Rodriguez

Introduction of the audience followed.

(Commissioner Mummey joined the meeting, constituting a quorum).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Vice President Lesser, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, and duly carried, with Commissioner Mummey abstaining, the minutes of November 8, 2004 were approved.

On motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, and duly carried, with Commissioners Jernigan and Mummey abstaining, the minutes of November 22, 2004 were approved with the following corrections by Vice President Lesser indicated in ***bold italics***:

Under Community Outreach, Page 3, Vice President Lesser attended the ***Distinguished*** ~~Consumer~~ Speaker's Series, and ... the farewell party for Dorothy Courtney, the director of the ***Richstone*** ~~Ridgestone~~ Family Center ...

(Treasurer Duba joined the meeting).

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Davalos commented on the Governor's Conference for Women held on December 7, 2004 at the Long Beach Convention Center, expressing concern about some of the Governor's remarks and commenting on the sub-par food and service.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Duba reported on the expenditures for the month of November 2004. The beginning balance for November was \$24,946.85; expenditures were \$2,600.19; income was \$94.64; and the ending balance was \$22,441.30. The monthly spending allowance for December 2004 is \$3,205.90.

Commissioner Rodriguez requested that the domestic violence donations be labeled as donations rather than grants on the Trust Fund Ledger.

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported the following:

- The Los Angeles Women's Appointment Collaboration Annual Reception for newly appointed commissioners is January 27, 2005 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Los Angeles Athletic Club in Downtown.
- The Women's Small Business Expo is April 29 – May 1, 2005 in Los Angeles. The tuition is \$397.00.

CANCELLATION OF DECEMBER 27, 2004 COMMISSION MEETING

On motion of Vice President Lesser, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, and unanimously carried, the Commission cancelled the December 27, 2004 Commission meeting. The next meeting will be January 10, 2005.

(Commissioner Gravely joined the meeting.)

REIMBURSE PRESIDENT'S FUND FOR UP TO \$500 FOR EXPENSES FOR HOLIDAY GATHERING

On motion of Commissioner Jernigan, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, and duly carried, with Commissioner Mummey abstaining, the Commission reimbursed the President's Fund for up to \$500 in expenses for the Holiday Gathering.

PRESENTATION ON BREAST CANCER IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Betty Rodriguez, Executive Director of Susan Komen Breast Cancer Foundation (SKBC), distributed related materials and provided an historical overview of the Foundation and their major fund raising venture the "Race for the Cure." She stated that approximately 113 affiliations exist throughout the nation and in 2003, approximately 22,050 California women and 135 men were diagnosed with breast cancer with 6,690 residing in Los Angeles County and 288 were under 40 years of age.

Among non-white/Latino/black women the statistics have double since 1976. Immigrants have a lesser rate of breast cancer than those who have lived in the U.S. 20 years or more. The foundation promotes, conducts outreach and raises breast cancer awareness. In addition, SKBC provides funds to local clinics that offer diagnostic work to women who otherwise can not afford the procedure. Ms. Rodriguez reiterated the foundation's support of wellness activities such as health fairs to promote awareness of early detection and the survival treatment rate.

President Davalos thanked Ms. Rodriguez for her informative presentation. Commissioner Lewis suggested the Commission sponsor a team for the Race for the Cure.

CLARIFY AND REFINE THE WORDING OF THE CONDOLENCE POLICY IN THE TRUST FUND CRITERIA

Commissioner Morgan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, to approve the wording for the condolence policy. Commissioners then discussed amending the wording so that that it is in accordance with the county bereavement policy.

On motion of Commissioner Jernigan, seconded by Commissioner Creary, and unanimously carried, the Commission tabled the matter until the next meeting.

CONSIDER BECOMING COMMUNITY PARTNER WITH THE OFFICE OF WOMEN'S HEALTH

On motion of Commissioner Jernigan, seconded by Commissioner Creary, and duly carried, with Commissioners Jernigan and Morgan abstaining and Commissioner Mummey opposed, the Commission approved becoming a community partner with the Office of Women's Health on their *Prevention Matters* campaign.

In another matter, the Commission also requested staff to send a letter to the Office of Women's Health to request appointment to the Women's Health Policy Council and inclusion on their mailing list.

SELECTION AND APPROVAL OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DONATION FOR THE THIRD DISTRICT

Staff indicated that Commissioner Perkins recommended Women Advancing the Valley through Education, Economics and Empowerment (WAVE) for the domestic violence donation.

On motion of Commissioner Jernigan, seconded by Commissioner Creary, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the \$500 donation for the Third District to WAVE.

DISCUSS OPPORTUNITY TO HOST THE 2005 ACCW CONVENTION

President Davalos indicated she would gather more information on the 2005 ACCW Convention and recommended continuing the matter to the next meeting. The Commission then tabled discussion on the feasibility of hosting the convention to the next meeting.

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones joined the meeting during the discussion.)

REPORT ON GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN

Commissioners reported on the workshops and speakers at the event. Some Commissioners commented on the marginal quality of the food and service and the lack of focus on local women's issues and on domestic violence. Various Commissioners indicated they thought the Governor's remarks on nurses and other protestors were inappropriate.

Commissioners requested staff to draft a letter to the Governor's Office, the event registration agency and others to express concern about various issues at the 2004 Governor's Conference for Women.

FINAL WRAP-UP REPORT FROM THE 5K COMMITTEE

Treasurer Duba reviewed the final report from the 5K Committee, which had its last meeting of the year on November 8, 2004. She reported on the event's sponsorship, entertainment, exhibits, volunteers and net proceeds, noting that 20 scholarships will be given at the scholarship reception ceremony on January 11, 2005 at the Hall of Administration. Commissioner Becerra-Jones spoke on organizing the scholarship orientation for that event.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health Committee: Commissioner Creary reported on the Board of Supervisors' recent action to close the King/Drew Medical Center Trauma Center and announced that former State Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson joined Supervisor Burke's staff.

Domestic Violence Subcommittee: Commissioner Rodriguez requested that a letter to county departments on a domestic violence report be placed on the next Commission agenda.

Legislative Committee: Commissioner Jernigan reported that the Governor vetoed 60 bills that the Women's Political Caucus had recommended.

Media/Public Relations Committee: Commissioner Morgan hosted tables at a City of La Mirada event on October 2, 2004 and at the October 9, 2004 Mid-Life and Older Women's Conference. She also attended the swearing-in ceremony of Supervisor Antonovich.

Older Women's Issues Committee: Commissioner Mummey reported on the Mid-Life and Older Women's Conference on October 9, 2004 at Pierce College, noting that the speakers were excellent and mentioning plans for the next conference. She also attended the swearing-in ceremony for Supervisor Knabe.

Awards Luncheon Committee: Nyla Jefferson, Executive Office, announced that nominations letters for the 2005 Women of the Year Awardees had been mailed out.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Genevieve Clavreul spoke on health issues.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Becerra-Jones spoke on a new Medicare prescription drug program.

Commissioner Jernigan attended the swearing in ceremony for Assemblywoman Karen Bass.

Commissioners Creary and Jernigan presented the Commission's \$500 donation with gifts and clothing to the Jenesse Center. Commissioner Creary also attended Supervisor Burke's swearing-in ceremony on December 5, 2004.

Vice President Lesser spoke on the American Heart Association's Heart Ball.

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA: There were none.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Karin Davalos, President
Charlotte Lesser, Vice President
Reiko Duba, Treasurer
Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Ruth Creary, Ph.D
Wadie Gravely
Ruth Jernigan
Bonnie J. Lewis
Lila Morgan
Janet Mummey, Esq.
Olivia Rodriguez

EXCUSED

Barbara Perkins

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Executive Office Staff: Khanh Nguyen, Steve Erickson, Nyla Jefferson, and Gabriel Alexander

GUESTS

Betty Rodriguez, Susan Komen Breast Cancer Foundation
Genevieve Clavreul
Rone Ellis